

Tribal owned Casinos stand to benefit from competition

Marci Hawpetoss
Menominee Nation News

In December of 2005, the Milwaukee County Board cited some numbers in a Potawatomi study and used it to pass a resolution which opposes the Kenosha Casino. Milwaukee elected officials, the Mayor and County Executive, have also written to the BIA to object to the proposed Kenosha Casino.

Why does the Menominee Tribe’s Kenosha Project appear to be a threat? The Menominee Tribe is currently proposing to build the largest Tribal casino in Wisconsin, in collaboration with Mohegan Sun, within the city limits of Kenosha, WI, which are the ancestral lands of the Menominee People. The Kenosha Project is currently under review by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, where approval is pending.

If the Kenosha Project is approved by the BIA, the Governor also needs to approve the proposal. With very strong community support from Kenosha residence, this continues to be an opportunity to create employment and generate income for the Tribe and the state.

See CASINO pg.2

M.T.S. New Years Eve Pow-Wow



R.Penass/Menominee Nation News

Above: Head male dancer, Stan LaTender and Head female dancer, 2005 Menominee Veterans Princess Kristin Waukau step to the beat of the drums at one of the traditional dances during the Sobriety Pow-wow.

Roberta Penass
Menominee Nation News

The 2005/06 Menominee Tribal School New Years Eve Sobriety Pow-wow was held in the M.T.S. gym. A bar-b-que lunch was available from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Grand entry started at 7 p.m.

The drums that registered for this years Sobriety Pow-wow were:

Gitaase’, Summer Cloud, Ole’ Skudders, Nanapowe and Rambling Rabbits. The host drum was Gitaase and co-host was Summer Cloud.

MC for this special Pow-wow was Mr. Waubano Awonohopay. Waubano introduced Mr. Joey Awonohopay who did the Invocation. Joey was honored to do the invocation and welcomed every-

one to the 2005/06 M.T.S. Sobriety Pow-wow. Joey said a Menominee prayer. He also mentioned for everyone to have a Safe Happy New Year and to have a safe drive home.

Summer Cloud sang the Grand Entry song, while the Veterans of the Menominee Nation lead everyone into the arena.

See POWWOW pg.2

Menominee Tribal Legislature honors Language camp participants



M. Hawpetoss/MNN

Menominee Language Immersion Opetahw-metaehmoh Camp Participants stand with the Menominee Tribal Legislature after receiving official proclamations on behalf of the Tribe for their commitment and dedication to learning and preserving the Menominee language.

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Casino continued from front page

It had been reported, September 7, 2005, that the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe has filed a rezoning application. This would allow the Potawatomi Tribe to expand their Milwaukee Casino, which is estimated to cost \$240 million.

The Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin feels that the Potawatomi Tribe's efforts would stand to benefit both Tribes and the Southeastern region of Wisconsin in terms of employment opportunity and the opportunity to generate income for both Tribes and the Southeast region.

A study conducted by internationally respected PricewaterhouseCoopers showed that expanding the Milwaukee Casino combined with the Menominee's proposed Kenosha Project would mean thousands of jobs in the area. The region, the state and the Tribes would benefit greatly.

For more information about the Kenosha Project please see:

www.kenoshacasino.com

Pow-Wow continued from front page

Following the Grand Entry song the Gitaase" sang the Flag song. Ole' Skudders had the Veterans song.

Head dancers for the 2005/06 M.T.S. Sobriety Pow-wow were: Male dancer-Stan LaTender, Female dancer-Kristen Waukau and Head Veteran dancer-Louis Kakwitch.

Royalties that attended the 2005 M.T.S. Sobriety Pow-wow were: Jr. M.T.S. Princess-Ms. Kaycee Frechette, 2005 M.T.S. Princess-Shay Peters, 2005 Veterans of the Menominee Nation Princess-Ms. Kristen Waukau, Jr. Ms Menominee-Ms. Natasha Tomow, 2005 Day Care Princess-Ms. Senihseah Wayka and U.W. Stevens Point Ambassador-Mr. Michael Fish.

Through out the evening there were a variety of intertribal songs and dances. Including the round dance, 12 and under dance, female and male dance and the adult dance, special dances were: crow-hop and sneak-up dance.

Before the evening was coming to an end the 2005/06 Sobriety Pow-wow committee held a give away. The give away included numerous of gifts for everyone that attended.

Veterans of the Menominee Nation retired the flags for the final 2005/06 Sobriety Pow-wow.

The Pow-wow was an enjoyment and a relaxing time for all those that attended the 2005/06 M.T.S. New Years Eve Sobriety Pow-wow.

Opetaw-Metaehmoh Memorial Language Camp participants honored by Tribal Legislature

Marci Hawpetoss
Menominee Nation News

Language revitalization strengthens Menominee sovereignty. The Historic Preservation Department understands this concept and they are working hard with Menominee speakers and elders to help our youth become fluent Menominee speakers.

Last summer they held the First Opetaw-Metaehmoh Memorial Youth Language Emerson Camp. The Tribal legislature honored students who participated in this ground breaking camp with an official proclamation on December 15, 2005. The honoring began with a Menominee prayer by Legislator Besaw.

As Menominee we are recognized as a sovereign nation because we continue to speak our inherent language, we continue to practice many of our traditions and we maintain our land base as Tribe. These are the basic concepts of sovereignty. Two special proclamations were issued to Twila M. Olson and Varlin Basina, summer Job Training Program workers, who were placed at Historic Preservation and worked well beyond their expectations as they voluntarily played a vital role in the creation, implementation and counsel of the first Opetaw-Metaehmoh Memorial language camp.

Twila is the daughter of Richard and Eleanor Olson, granddaughter of Lucille Mahkimetas and Julia Corn, descendent of Chief Wapemen (Corn), Chief Mahkimetas and Grizly Bear (Speaker of the Tribe).

Varlin Basina is son of Brenda and Varlin Basina, and grandson of Varlin and Delia Basina, and Lois Cleveland. He is the descendent of Chief Pamanet and was instilled by his grandparents the oldest Menominee traditions of maple sugar making, traditional gardening. He also learned to hunt with the help of his father. A proclamation was issued to each Opetaw-Metaehmoh Memorial Youth Language Emerson Camp participant: Samantha Awonohopay, Amanda Welk, Trevor Perrote, Steffany Boivin, Michael Fish Jr., Kaycee Frechette, Appolinia Gomez, Neiko Kaquatosh, Kodiak Mahkimetas, Brittany Maulson, Autumn McPherson, Sage Odierno, Mindy Waupoose and Cami Perez.

These youth "willingly choose to carry on and to share the sacred gift of the Menominee language, in so doing, they preserve the language for all future generations of Menominee," read the proclamation, signed by Tribal Chairman, Michael Chapman, and read by Legislator Washinawatok.

The proclamation also read of each youth, "their growing wisdom of the Menominee language will allow the Menominee people take comfort in knowing the Menominee language will always live and it is their leadership that will help carry on knowledge throughout time by sharing and imparting this sacred gift, and they will guide, inspire and empower others to value and respect the Menominee language."

As Chairman Chapman presented each youth with a proclamation, they shined and showed everyone that they are developing great leadership skills and they are leading the Menominee Nation into a time where the language will be a priority in the life of every Menominee.

David 'Nahwahquah' Grignon explained the significance of the camp. "When we decided to have this language camp, we did not have the funds to have a camp, but we went ahead and planned for one because we felt the funds we needed would follow us," stated Grignon, "it did and we were able to have a successful

first language camp.”

Grignon also explained that these youth meet on a monthly basis to speak the language with their camp counselors/language teachers, elders and family. “The parents and the camp counselors should also be recognized for their efforts which make this camp a success,” he stated.

Legislator Fish also had a few words to share. “This is very emotional. Its inspiring to see our young people learning the language. We have lost court cases because our language has been diminished from what it once was,” he stated, “our language is an integral part of sovereignty.”

Following this presentation was an honor song provided by Wind Eagle, a Menominee Drum group who also encourages Menominee youth to practice traditions.

Lead singer, Shane Webster spoke about the importance of language revitalization and explained the honor song which can be closely translated as: “we are proud of our children.”

Historic Preservation’s Becky Alegria and Roxanne LaRock served a meal, cake and drinks in celebration of the honoring. Alegria also took pictures for the families. Camp counselors/language teachers are Andrew Warrington, Marla Mahkimetas, Sherry Lachapelle-Corn, Joey Awonohopay, Ron Corn Jr., and Ben Grignon.

Opetaw-Metaehmoh, the late Ingrid Washinawatok-EI Isa, daughter of Gwen and the late James Washinawatok, is a Menominee woman who lost her life in Colombia, South America, while working with Indigenous people.

She was helping to create a language revitalization project with the indigenous people of Colombia. “Language was important to Opetaw-Metaehmoh, she gave her life for it,” stated Grignon.

Congratulations to everyone involved, keep up the excellent work and commitment!